

CLAIMS

1. A method for establishing a group of at least two wireless terminals for wireless group communication between the at least two wireless terminals, comprising the steps of:

bringing the users of the at least two wireless terminals into a physical contact;

detecting the physical contact between the users of the at least two wireless terminals; and

establishing the group of the at least two wireless terminals for group communication over a wireless link between the at least two wireless terminals of the established group.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising before the step of bringing the users into the physical contact the step of detecting a vicinity of the at least two wireless terminals using wireless communication.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said step of detecting the vicinity of the at least two wireless terminals comprises the steps of:

entering the at least two wireless terminals into a group creation mode; and

inquiring the vicinity of the wireless terminals by transmitting a message from a first wireless terminal of the at least two wireless terminals to a second wireless terminal of the at least two wireless terminals over the wireless communication.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the message includes information about the first wireless terminal that initiates the process and about the group creation.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein said step of entering the group creation mode comprises the user of the wireless terminal performing an action on the wireless terminal, the action being one of touching an electrode, selecting

said group creating mode from a menu of said wireless terminal, and pressing a button.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of detecting said physical contact between the users of the at least two wireless terminals comprises the step of:

transferring a signal via said physical contact between the users of the wireless terminals.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein said step of transferring said signal comprises the steps of:

generating said signal in one of the at least two wireless terminals;

transmitting said generated signal to the body of a first user, the first user being the user of the signal generating wireless terminal, and further to the body of a second user being physically connected to the first user; and

detecting the transmitted signal in the wireless terminal of the second user.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein said signal includes a low-frequency signal.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the signal frequency is less than 1 megahertz.

10. The method of claim 6, wherein said signal includes at least an address of the transmitting wireless terminal, and optionally at least one of clock offset information, and class of device.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein said physical contact includes one of a handshake and any other contact between the users allowing a signal to pass between the users.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of establishing said group of the physically connected users of the at least two wireless terminals comprises the step of:

5 confirming the establishment of said group between the users of the wireless terminals by transmitting a message to a wireless terminal of the group over the wireless communication.

10 13. The method of claim 1, wherein each wireless terminal comprises a low power radio transceiver for the wireless communication and an antenna.

15 14. The method of claim 6 or 7, wherein each wireless terminal comprises a PAN transceiver and a contact electrode for generating and transmitting said signal into the body of the user.

15. The method of claim 1, wherein said group comprises at least three wireless user terminals.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein said physical contact is a chain contact where one of the users is physically connected to a second one of the users further being in physical contact with a third one of said users.

20 17. The method of claim 15, wherein each of the users of the group are in physical contact with each other upon forming the group.

18. The method of claim 1, 15, 16 or 17, wherein while the users are in the physical contact, each user is also in contact with an electrode further having a connection with the wireless terminal of each respective user.

25 19. A wireless communication terminal for group communication with at least one other wireless terminal, comprising:

a detecting element for detecting the physical contact between the user of the wireless terminal and the user of the at least one other wireless

terminal;

means for participating in the establishment of the group of the wireless terminal and the at least one other wireless terminal for group communication over a wireless link with the at least one other wireless terminal of the established group; and

a transceiver for performing wireless group communication involving the wireless terminal and the at least one other wireless terminal of the established group.

20. The wireless communication terminal of claim 19, wherein said transceiver comprises a short-range radio transceiver and an antenna.

21. The wireless communication terminal of claim 19, wherein said detecting element comprises a PAN transceiver and an electrode for contacting the body of the user.

22. The wireless communication terminal of claim 21, wherein said detecting element further comprises a switch to trigger transmission of a signal to the body of the user when in said physical contact.

23. The terminal of claim 19, wherein said physical contact includes one of a handshake, any contact between the users enabling a small electrical current to flow from a first body of a first user to a second body of a second user, and any contact wherein bodies can exchange digital information coupling capacitively small currents through said body.

24. The terminal of claim 22, wherein said signal includes a low-frequency signal.

25. The terminal of claim 24, wherein the signal frequency includes about 100 – 1000 KHz.